

NETL's PURSUIT OF ISO 14001 CERTIFICATION

What is ISO 14001?

CONTACT

Jan K. Wachter
Environmental Management
System Representative
National Energy Technology
Laboratory
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 880
3610 Collins Ferry Road
Morgantown, WV 26507-0880
304-285-4607
jan.wachter@netl.doe.gov

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies from over 140 countries. Established in 1947, ISO serves as a non-governmental organization whose mission is to promote the development of standardization and related activities throughout the world.

ISO 14001 is the internationally accepted standard for environmental management systems. ISO 14001:1996, *Environmental Management Systems – Specification and Guidance for Use*, is enabling NETL to structure the environmental management of its operations, while offering strategies to continually improve environmental performance.

Why Become Certified?

CUSTOMER SERVICE

800-553-7681

WEBSITE

www.netl.doe.gov

The ISO 14001 standard provides the framework by which an organization can establish and manage its environmental goals. Certification will provide independent confirmation that NETL has an Environmental Management System that meets the requirements of the ISO 14001 standard. And, while ISO certification is a distinction recognized worldwide, it will also enable NETL to comply with the requirements of Executive Order 13148, which requires all federal sites to have an Environmental Management System in place by 2005.

NETL's Environmental Management System

NETL's Environmental Management System is based on the Environmental Policy (described using the acronym PRISM), and the Laboratory's implementing directives and programs. Like NETL's Integrated Safety Management System, the Environmental Management System relies on management commitment and employee involvement for its success.

NETL has conducted extensive analyses of over 300 on-site projects, operations, and facilities. Based on the analyses, a top-ten list of laboratory's significant environmental aspects has been established. (An *Environmental Aspect* is an element of an organization's activities, products, and services that can interact with the environment.) Programs that address NETL's significant environmental aspects are the core of the Environmental Management System.



“Top Ten” Environmental Aspects

- Waste Generation, Management, and Disposal
- Energy and Fuel Usage
- Buying Green
- Hazardous Material Procurement, Consumption, Storage and Release
- Industrial Wastewater Treatment Facility Operations/Discharges
- Air Emissions
- Chemical Handling Facility and Its Operations
- Surface Water and Stormwater Discharges
- Off-Site Noise
- Non-Industrial Land Use

*For more
information about
NETL’s
ISO 14001 efforts
visit our
website at*

**www.netl.doe.gov/
ISO14001/**

NETL Environmental Policy

- It is the policy of NETL to systematically and fully integrate environmental considerations into the planning and execution of work at all levels so that the mission of NETL is successfully accomplished for the benefit of the public, the worker, and the environment.
- It is the policy of NETL to establish and execute its environmental management system (EMS) based on integrated safety management (ISM) principles and processes. Consistent with ISM principles, successful execution of the NETL’s EMS requires management commitment and employee involvement. ISM processes used as the NETL EMS framework include conducting assessments; identifying standards and other requirements based on these assessments; identifying and implementing corrective and improvement actions; generating objectives, performance measures, and targets; soliciting feedback on environmental performance; creating lessons learned based on experience and knowledge; identifying and implementing continuous improvement opportunities; and training employees commensurate with their duties.
- It is the policy of NETL to control its operations in a manner that reduces the hazards associated with the work to be performed; to conduct its operations in compliance with relevant Federal, state, and local environmental laws, regulations, and other requirements; and to use pollution prevention projects and activities to improve NETL’s environmental posture.
- It is the policy of NETL to evaluate its environmental aspects using up-front risk analyses to identify hazards, control these hazards through primarily engineering design, and reduce or eliminate these hazards using waste minimization and pollution prevention techniques.
- It is the policy of NETL to require NETL Line Managers to be responsible for effective environmental performance within their programs, to involve workers in the development and execution of environmental management programs, and to objectively and fully communicate environmental information to NETL employees, to research associates, to subcontractor personnel, to NETL stakeholders, and to the public.

Approved by: Alice Q. Murphy, Deputy Director, Operations (04/25/01)



Pollution Prevention

Regulatory Compliance

Improve Continuously

Safety Analysis & Review Systems (SARs)

Minimize Waste